

## Mid-East Prophecy Update – March 27th, 2011

- Every week, we set aside a few minutes on Sunday mornings to look at Bible prophecy
- The reason for this is because the Bible predicts certain events that will take place in the last days before the Lord returns.
- We believe that what's happening in the world today is a fulfillment of those Bible Prophecies.

- We look primarily at events in the Middle East, specifically related to Israel because, as it's been said; "Israel is God's prophetic clock."

- I would like to begin today's update by making, what might be perceived as, a very sensational, and even provocative, prophetic statement.
- "We may now be on the cusp of unprecedented global events leading to the rapture of the bride of Christ, which will usher in the Anti-Christ."

- About three years ago, back in 2008, I did an update on how Islam in the Middle-East would propel the ushering in of a Muslim Messiah.
- What we see happening even now in Egypt, Libya, Bahrain, Syria, Yemen, Morocco, Algeria, Turkey, and Iran, is as dizzying as it is exciting.
- Now, I want to draw your attention to a news article that has sort of been eclipsed by all the events both in Japan, as well as the Middle-East.

**On Friday, March 11th, The AFP, which is a French News Agency, had this article titled; "US, Israel will soon exit Middle East: Ahmadinejad"** - President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said on Friday that a new Middle East is being created which would be free of the United States and Israel, ..."We will soon see a new Middle East materializing without America and the Zionist regime and there will be no room for world arrogance (the West) in it," ...In his fiery style, Ahmadinejad, showed his messianic beliefs on Friday, saying the world was witnessing a revolution managed by Imam Mehdi, the 12 Shiite imam who disappeared as a five-year-old in the 10th century and who Shiites believe would return on the judgment day. "The final move has begun. We are in the middle of a world revolution managed by this dear (12th Imam). A great awakening is unfolding. One can witness the hand of Imam in managing it," said Ahmadinejad,...

<http://www.france24.com/en/20110211-us-israel-will-soon-exit-middle-east-ahmadinejad>

- It's important to understand that Ahmadinejad, and the Ayatollah Khamenei with him, believe they're called to usher in this 12th Imam.
- Islamic eschatology teaches that a "savior" will return bringing harmony and peace to the world which he rules for a period of "7" years.

**Daniel 9:27 NIV** He will confirm a covenant with many for one 'seven.' In the middle of the 'seven' he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on a wing of the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him."

**Daniel 8:24-25 KJV** And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practise, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people. (25) And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify *himself* in his heart, **and by peace shall destroy many**; he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand.

Ramon Bennett, in his book; "Philistine, the Great Deception," which was published in Israel 16 years ago back in 1995 wrote; "Arafat, like most Moslem Arabs, [was] a keen admirer of Hitler. His military and propaganda strategy [was] a copy of Hitler's, but Arafat's peace [policy was] copied from Islamic history. Arabs hold to a strong belief in the proverb that they can "remedy the present only with the remedies of the past." Arafat [looked] to the past-not just Hitler, but also to the two most famous figures in Islam's long history of warfare, Mohammed and Saladin ...And Arafat's concept of peace [was] the same as Mohammed and Saladin a coin one must pay to achieve something else: 'Peace for us means the destruction of Israel.'"

- I would suggest, that Daniel's, man of peace prophecy, and Islam's man of peace meaning Israel's destruction may be one in the same.
- Islam's religious writings have similar prophecies about this hidden "Imam" or "Mahdi," as he's known to both Shia and Sunni Muslims.
- One such writing comes from a book called the "Hadith." It is a collection of the words and deeds of the Islamic prophet Muhammad.

### Prophecies about the coming of the "Imam" from the Hadith:

1. He will be a descendant of Muhammad and the son of Fatima
2. He will return just before the end of the world
3. He will eradicate all tyranny and oppression bringing harmony and total peace
4. He will lead a prayer in Mekkah with Jesus at his side following him
5. He will rule over the world for 7 years

- Other Islamic writings echo this prophecy and even mention how this Muslim messiah will rule the world for "7" years from Jerusalem.

"... There will come forth a man from my nation who will talk according to my Sunnah. God will send upon him rain from heaven, and the earth will sprout forth for him its blessing. The earth will be filled through him with equity and justice, as it has been filled with injustice and crime. He will direct the affairs of this nation for seven years, and he will settle in Jerusalem."

Ibn Khaldun "al-Muqqadima"

- Now, I am keenly aware that many of you may be wondering if I am now moving over into the camp that believes the Anti-Christ is a Muslim.
- There are two schools of thought, one of which believes he will come out of a revived Roman empire, while the other believes it's Islam.
- So, the question becomes which is it, Rome, or Islam? My answer; "yes." At the risk of sounding like a smarty pants, allow me to explain.

- I believe that it may be both. Here's why; at some point in the not too distant future, all religions will come together in a New World Order.
- It is becoming increasingly more plausible, that there will be a marriage of sorts between the religions of Roman Catholicism and Islam.
- Before you stone me to death, please consider the following cozy relationship that both the Catholics and the Muslims enjoy with each other.

## STRIKING SIMILARITIES BETWEEN CATHOLICISM AND ISLAM

1. Both have adherents that exceed one billion people
2. Both enter their respective faiths as infants
3. Both enjoy being the fastest growing and largest religions in the world today
4. Both religions venerate Mary and denigrate Jesus
5. Both share a reverence for Fatima with Catholics seeing her as an apparition of Mary, and Muslims as the daughter of Mohammed
6. Both religions have similar prayers which are repetitive, and utilize prayer beads as part of their ritual and devotion
7. Both regard pilgrimages as a means of obtaining favor from God
8. Both recognize Allah as God with the Pope declaring Allah as the God of the Bible in 1995
9. Both emphasize iconic worship with many of their idolatrous symbols bearing an astonishing resemblance
10. Both have a Jesus who cannot save their souls with Islam denying the crucifixion and Catholicism denying the sufficiency of his resurrection
11. Both have to earn salvation by way of prayer, deeds, alms, fasting, and good works
12. Both possess a satanic hatred for God's chosen people
13. Both possess control of the temple mount upon which the Anti-Christ will rule in the third temple during the seven year tribulation period

If you would like to research this further, I want to encourage you to read an article by T.A. McMahon of the Berean Call. titled; **Catholicism & Islam: The Ties That Bind.** It can be found at [http://www.reachingcatholics.org/cath\\_islam.html](http://www.reachingcatholics.org/cath_islam.html).

**It was 13 years ago, on May 14th, 1999, when, then Pope John Paul II, was photographed kissing the Qur'an.** One source in Iraq published this article with the title; "IRAQ - We hope for peace and a Papal Visit: Chaldean Patriarch of Babylon." This Babylonian Patriarch pictured here with the Pope was quoted as saying; ... I was received by the Pope, together with a delegation composed of the Shiite imam of Khadum mosque and the Sunni President of the council of administration of the Iraqi Islamic Bank. There was also a representative of the Iraqi ministry of religion. I renewed our invitation to the Pope because his visit would be for us a grace from heaven. It would confirm the faith of Christians and prove the Pope's love for the whole of humanity in a country which is mainly Muslim. **At the end of the audience the Pope bowed to the Muslim holy book the Koran presented to him by the delegation and he kissed it as a sign of respect.** The photo of that gesture has been shown repeatedly on Iraqi television and it demonstrates that the Pope ... **has great respect for Islam.** A papal visit would be welcomed by both the people and by the authorities. After the audience I immediately sent a recommendation to the Iraqi government to make the official step of inviting the Pope to Iraq.

<http://www.traditioninaction.org/RevolutionPhotos/A055rcKoran.htm>

- In February of 2000, Yassar Arafat meets with Pope John Paul II and is photographed kissing the Pope's ring
- On November 28, 2006, Benedict XVI addressed ambassadors and religious leaders at the Vatican Embassy in Ankara, Turkey. He chose to have as the background setting for his speech an enormous Muslim Crescent.
- On April 17, 2008, during the inter-faith meeting, Benedict happily received an ornate, silver-plated copy of part of the Koran from a Muslim.
- On December 1, 2006, Benedict XVI "Hailed for Praying Like Muslims Toward Mecca."
- In 2009, Pope Benedict became the first Pope to ever visit the Temple Mount in Jerusalem, where he was welcomed by the site's Muslim clergy, the Islamic Trust (the Waqf) and the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem. There, he spoke about how true devotion means that we must all "work untiringly to safeguard human hearts from hatred, anger, or vengeance." As a sign of deference to the Muslims, the Pope removed his shoes when entering.

<http://catholicforum.fisheaters.com/index.php/topic,3435820.0.html>

<http://www.vaticanassassins.org/2009/11/third-hebrew-temple-for-the-risen-pope-the-antichrist/>

[http://www.gojerusalem.com/discover/article\\_648/Pope-Benedict-XVI-visits-Jerusalems-Temple-Mount](http://www.gojerusalem.com/discover/article_648/Pope-Benedict-XVI-visits-Jerusalems-Temple-Mount)

- So, now the question may be; "how does what's happening in the Muslim Middle-East today, tie into this revived Roman empire in Europe."

Just yesterday, Saturday, March 26th, there was this breaking news from the Associated Press: "Report: UN, EU urged to broker peace deal" NEW YORK (Ma'an) -- Britain, France and Germany want the UN and EU to propose the outlines of a final settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict that would lead to the establishment of a Palestinian state, UN diplomats have reportedly said. The three countries, all members of the Security Council, are pressing for Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and the EU to propose a settlement text at a meeting in mid-April of the Quartet -- the UN, EU, US and Russia, the diplomats told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because talks are taking place in private. ...Bashkortostanian President Rustam Khamitov spoke of support for Palestinians, saying Islam was a "model to unite people of different religions," and suggesting missions to the region to support economic growth.

<http://www.maannews.net/eng/ViewDetails.aspx?ID=372382>

Another agency reporting the same breaking news had this to say; "The big question mark is whether the United States would allow the Europeans and U.N. to take the lead in trying to resolve the standoff, and that is likely to depend on whether the Israelis give a green light, the diplomats said. The Israelis and Palestinians have agreed to President Barack Obama's target date of September 2011 for an agreement, but negotiations collapsed weeks after they restarted last September because Israel ended its moratorium on settlement construction. The Palestinians insist they will not resume peace talks until Israel halts settlement building in the West Bank and east Jerusalem, lands Israel captured in the 1967 Middle East war which the Palestinians want for their future state."

[http://www.google.com/hostednews/canadianpress/article/ALeqM5gHizo\\_I7RkqXiD8tzZTkEs3jRbuw?docId=6367605](http://www.google.com/hostednews/canadianpress/article/ALeqM5gHizo_I7RkqXiD8tzZTkEs3jRbuw?docId=6367605)